Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP78B04770A002800040007-2

25X1

NPIC/D-45-6

Photo Interpretation Dept

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Deputy Director (Intelligence) for Management

SUBJECT : Development Project Approval Request for an Unconventional Photographic Duplication System

I. Identification

The Project will be under the Technical Development Program of the PSDD, NPIC at a total estimated cost of [redacted] It was included in the NPIC financial plan at the [redacted] level under Special Techniques and Development Studies. This project constitutes one part of a three part effort towards the objective stated below.

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II. Objectives

The overall objective will be to produce a completely dry, black and white continuous-tone photographic system that overcomes the recognized objectionable features of silver-halide photography to provide the exploitation community with an immediate printout medium requiring no operator skill.

This effort is directed towards the development of a duplication material capable of immediate printout of high-resolution, continuous-tone, high contrast, permanent, transmission images by simultaneous exposure and heating in a one-step system.

III. Background

In recent years, there have been many Government and privately sponsored development efforts directed towards producing a continuous-tone, dry, instantaneously processed photo-sensitive medium, free of known undesirable characteristics of silver-halide and at the same time, incorporating certain other desirable features not available in conventional silver-halide materials.

In every system known to the writer, all efforts have fallen far short in fulfillment of total requirements that would justify substitution for silver-halide medium for either acquisition or duplication, where maximum image quality is a prime requisite.

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The ever increasing demands of modern exploitation systems for quality, resolution and speed of image readout, make it imperative that a strong development effort be undertaken to overcome the limitation imposed by the silver-halide system.

IV. Technical Specifications

The proposed study is designed to permit assessment of the feasibility of deriving a practical, non-reversible black and white recording process together with associated materials which permit high resolution, continuous-tone, high contrast images to be recorded instantaneously and developed and fixed in one step merely by heating. One of the results of this program should be a precise assessment of the further work required to obtain a practical medium that can be produced on demand.

V. Contractor and Financial Arrangements

The contract will be placed with the [redacted] 25X1
25X1 [redacted] level-of-effort for a one year period.

Recent developments in unconventional photographic materials were reviewed in detail with engineers and scientists at the following companies: 25X1

[redacted]

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[redacted] was chosen because their conceptual originality and technical competence is unique and exhibits unusual potential in the field of unconventional photographic systems.

VI. Coordination.

The proposed program has been coordinated with [redacted] and is by this action being coordinated within the Agency. In addition, investigations throughout [redacted] components and industry indicate that this program does not duplicate another development effort capable of meeting NPIC's requirements. 25X1 25X1

VII. Security.

The program is to be negotiated on an [redacted] Confidential basis. 25X1

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ARTHUR C. LUEHRING
Director
National Photographic Interpretation Center

APPROVED: 151
Paul A. Borel
Assistant Deputy Director (Intelligence)
for Management

26 March 64
Date

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